

One Thing

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PASTOR JAMES: Today, God has only placed one thing on my heart to deliver to you. Usually when I speak to you, place multiple things on my heart, but there is just one thing today. So, if you are tuning in by television, do not change the channel. If you are listening through the internet, stay right there because you need to hear this one thing. I believe it would be the most important one thing that you can hear right now.

We are going to start in the book of Philippians chapter 3. Pastor put this scripture on the program and he did not know what scripture I was using today, so it is something you all need to hear today. Amen. Philippians 3 verses 8 through 15, reading from the King James Version and it reads. “Ye doubtless and I count all things but the laws for the Excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and do count them but dung that I may win Christ and be found in Him not having my own righteousness which is of the law but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings being made conformable unto His death. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead, not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect, but I may follow after. If that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I account not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press hold of the mark for the price of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.”

And I speak from the simple title of the day of just One Thing, one thing. And Paul had only one thing that he had his mind focused on and that was to press toward the mark of the price of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, just this one thing. James 1:8 says, “A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.” And I just want to read a short excerpt from an article called the Expert Mind, and it is about a master chess player. It is written by Philip E. Ross and it reads. “A man walks along the inside of a circle of chess tables glancing at each for two or three seconds before making his move. On the outer rim, dozens of amateur sit pondering their replies until he completes the circuit. The year is 1909. The man is Jose Raul Capablanca of Cuba, and the result is a whitewash, 28 wins in 28 games. The exhibition was part of the tour which Capablanca won 168 games on a row.”

How many of you know that is a master chess player? How did he play so well so quickly and how far ahead could he calculate under such constraints? They asked him this question and this was what he said. Capablanca said, “I see only one move ahead, but it is always the correct one.” I see only one move ahead and it is only the correct one. And just as Capablanca did and won 28 simultaneous games of chess

against amateurs. I am sure some of those amateurs thought they were pros before they play this man. And I am asking you today to stop and focus on one correct move ahead in your life, just one. I am asking you right now to close your eyes where you sit. If you are listening via television, just close your eyes. If you are listening via the internet, just close your eyes right now and meditate, and do not go to sleep on me now.

I know some of you are saying that feel pretty good. But, I want you to meditate on the following question. What one change can I make in my life right now that is within my power to do that would change my life the most for the better? Let me repeat that. What one change can I make in my life right now that is within my power to do that would change my life the most for the better? This change can either be start doing something that you need to do or stop doing something that you do not need to be doing. Just take a moment and meditate on that question and fix this one thing firmly in your mind, and we are going to do some things with it later on in the message. So, do not forget it. And the human mind has difficulty focusing on more than one thing at a time and wives have known this before psychologists for a long time. That is why when they talk to their husband and they are watching the football game on Sunday, they want them to look at them and say, "You are not listening to me." And on the flip side of that, many husbands have known this for a long time too, and that is the reason why they watch the football game or do something else while their wives are talking to them.

You may have made a long list of resolutions at the beginning of the year, but how many past resolutions that you have made are you still practicing today? And that is why I only want you to focus on and leave here with only one thing fixed firmly in your mind this day and I want to read a passage also from the richest man in Babylon, and this is the book that Pastor told everybody to go out and get on last month. I do not know how many did that, but you are going to hear an excerpt right now. It might sound familiar to you, but I want you to listen carefully because it jumped out at me when I read it. And this is a quote from the rich man after his friend's claim the reason he had so much money was just because he had unusually strong will power. This is what the rich man answered back unto them.

"What nonsense do you think will power gives a man the strength to lift a burden the camel cannot carry or to draw a load the oxen cannot budge? Will power is but the unflinching purpose to carry a task you set for yourself to fulfillment. If I set for myself a task, be it ever so trifling, I shall see it through. How else shall I have confidence in my self to do important things? Should I say to myself, for a hundred days as I walk across the bridge into the city, I will pick from the road a pebble and cast it into the stream? I would do it. If on the seventh day I passed by without remembering, I would not say to myself, tomorrow I will cast two pebbles which would do as well. Instead, I would retrace my steps and cast the pebble. Nor on the

twentieth day I would say to my self, Arkad, this is useless. What does it avail you to cast a pebble everyday. Throw in a handful and be done with it.”

How many of you all would say that? Somebody would have said, how about on the third day. “No, I would not say that nor do it. When I set a test for myself, I complete it. Therefore, I am careful not to start difficult and impractical task because I love leisure.” And this is a quote giving a principle of how do be disciplined with a task and to start and see it through to completion even if you were not born with a high level of discipline.

Matthew 19:16-24. I want to turn to that quickly. It is a familiar passage, Matthew 19:16-24, and it reads, “And behold, one came and said unto him, ‘Good master, what thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?’ And he said unto him, ‘Why calleth thou me good? There is none good but one, that is God. But, if though would enter into life, keep the commandments.’ He sayeth unto Him, ‘Which?’ Jesus said, ‘Thou should do no murder. Thou should not commit adultery. Thou should not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness. Honor thy father and thy mother and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self.’ The young man sayeth unto Him, ‘All of these things have I checked from my youth up, what lack I yet?’ Jesus said unto him, ‘If thou would be perfect, go and sell that thou has. Give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven and come and follow me.’ But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful for he had great possessions. And then said Jesus unto the disciples, ‘Verily I say unto you, that a rich man shall hardly enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, and again I say unto you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than a for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God.’”

The rich man had done a lot of right in his life. He had a lot of possessions, but there is only one thing that he could not do and that one thing kept him out of the Kingdom of Heaven. What is the one thing in your life that you are not doing keeping you from? Can you imagine what kind of better shape you would be in if you were doing only that one thing or if it is one bad thing that you need to stop doing? Can you imagine how much better your life would be if just this one habit was removed out of your life? Think about it.

In the Bible, what if Samson would have never done the one thing of just letting his hair grow long? What would have been the destiny of that town? What would the story have read like if he would cut his hair like everybody else trying to look cool? What if David would have never gotten the courage to go out with a little sling setting five smooth stones to conquer the big giant Goliath? What would have happened to the nation of Israel if it had not been for that one thing? What if the patriarch Abraham would have said, “God, you can have my life and everything else in my life, but I cannot give up my only son Isaac. I cannot sacrifice him. Lord, give me something else. I just cannot give up my son.” What if he would not have made

that sacrifice? What if Jesus would have lived all the days of his life as a perfect man? They would have spit at His face, cursed at Him, done all of the things prophesied about Him, but yet He would have gotten to the Garden of Gethsemane and said, "Lord, I cannot do it anymore. I do not want to give up my life and die on that cross for them." What if they would have chickened out at the end after doing all of those things? What would you be today? Where would your hope be if He had not completed just that one, thing and you all have one thing in your life that is holding you back from some great destinies? God wants to break through some things in your life, but there is one thing in the way, and only you know what it is, you and God.

There were seven churches in the book of Revelations chapter 2 and 3, and as the spirit gave out orders unto Paul, there was one thing that stood out in about each one of those churches. A lot was going on and that they all had something good about them, but there was one thing with all going on that was kind of a summary of how those changes were doing and only two of them had a good report. First church is Ephesus. The one thing was they had forsaken the first law. They have done a lot of good things, but they had forsaken the first law. That one thing was enough though.

Second church Smyrna. They were in pretty good shape, but he said they would suffer much persecution later and that can put a lift behind you right there just to let you know you are going to have to go through much persecution. The third church Pergamum. They were the church that needed to repent for holding on to pagan teaches and practices following after some idol gods and some false practice that can get you all messed up. The fourth church was the church of Thyatira and this is the church that one thing was that they listen to a false prophetess named Jezebel. And some of you may have some Jezebels in your life that is messing you all up.

You may have a good job or maybe doing good in church, but you may have a Jezebel in your life that is just messing you up and keeping you from getting where you need to be. I know some of the women probably want to put a Jezebel assignment.

The fifth church, the church of Sardis. The one thing that they had was the church that was falling asleep and was half dead. No life in them at all. They dried up and got weary, stopped doing the work of the Lord. The sixth church, they were in good shape, the church of Philadelphia. Their one thing was they had endured patiently. The seventh church, church of Laodicea. Their one thing was they had lukewarm faith. They were neither hot nor cold and you all know from the Bible what the Lord said he is going to do with the lukewarm, spew you out of his mouth. And many of you in your lives, you are waiting on a breakthrough to come through, and God has sent me here today for all of you. There is only one thing standing in

between you and your breakthrough, and then maybe something out of the will of God that you need to stop or in the will of God that you need to stop.

Imagine for a minute how many households in this country are broken up just because of the one thing of adultery or abuse. Imagine how many children have to grow up fatherless because of just one act in marriage. Imagine how many single mothers have to work two and three jobs just because of one thing in a marriage, what kind of impact just one thing can have on a destiny.

And we have had employees in our company and they have lost their jobs. Then next in 15 years of over one thing just because they went to use the bathroom in a cup and then passed the drug test, or harassed another employee. Just one thing made them lose their job. One thing can change your entire existence. Remember, change is not change until is changed. Let me say that again. Change is not change until is changed.

Just turn to your neighbor and tell him that. Turn to other side and tell him. And a habit is a hard thing to break. How many of you know that? A habit is a hard, hard, hard thing to break, and it is even evident in the very word itself. If you break it up you have H-A-B-I-T, habit. And even when you take that H off you still have A-B-I-T, a bit of it is still there. I tell you, those habits, they are hard thing to break. Even after I take the A out and you say, "Let me just knock off that A." You knock off that A, the B-I-T, the bit is still there.

Well you said, "I will get rid of the H, A, and the B. You get rid of it all through and you know I-T, it is still there. Those habits are a hard thing to break and it is not until you take the I off of it, that I which is you, once you remove yourself out of the equation, once you conduct yourself and say, "Lord, you take over. I have tried it on my own and I cannot go on any longer, Lord. I cannot right this thing on my own. I surrender my own.

When you take I out of that, some things can change in your life. You will see things you have been waiting 15 years, generations prophetically. That is you have been waiting on and you begin to break forth when you can just remove the I out of that, and let him have His way. You must die the self in order to break a habit, and most of the research says it takes 21 days to form a new habit or break an old one and I have included today a handout that the ushers can pass that on now.

In this handout, if you are listening via television or online, you can go to AirJesus.com and click on [TheOnlineWord](#) and click handouts to get it. And this sheet, it has a line at the top to put the one thing that you need to start doing or stop doing that would change your life the most, and you all can do this when you get home. It has six blocks of 21 days, so if you messed up doing that 21-day cycle, you can start over. And each day that you complete successfully, you just cross that

date out and continue it on the next set of dates until you complete 21 straight days and each day you get closer and closer to forming a new habit in your life or breaking an existing habit that is negative.

Let me give you another quote while they are handing it out. Discipline is doing what you need to do when you need to do it instead of what you want to do when you want to do it. Let me repeat that. Discipline is doing what you need to do when you need to do it, instead of what you want to do when you want to do it. I hope this message today is a boost for you because we all can get stuck sometimes in life. Sometimes we are walking good on a course and all of a sudden, a hit lock up and then we just get stuck right there for five years and we cannot go any further just like we hit a ceiling in our lives.

So, He sent me here to just give you a boost to just kick your own out of that and straighten that hit back up where you can keep on walking and last week, I am not ashamed to tell it because many of you all have got the same thing, you just do not let anybody know about it. But, we have a little critter in our garage. And I put up a glue trap and put some peanut butter in the middle of it. The next morning we came out to check it and that critter was stuck in that glue and he was about two inches away from the peanut butter and all he could do is look at it and smell it and sniff it and I told my wife. I said, "That got to be some strong glue if he it could stop two inches from it and struggle all night long and could not get to that peanut butter."

But, we are like that a lot of times in our life. There is something that God is showing us and it is right there beyond our grasp, but we walk and we get stuck. A bad habit keeps us and God said you take care of this into the promise land where I want to take you. We will be walking and about to go to our destiny. We are hooked up with the wrong joke and then all of a sudden it just catches a little. And we cannot go and we are looking at the peanut butter right there and cannot get to it. I tell you, I am here today to kick you out of that glue so you can eat your peanut butter. We got this mouse out but he is in the garbage today now.

The book of Revelations 10:8-9. You do not have to turn there. From the NIV version it reads. "Then the voice that I heard from heaven spoke to me once more, 'Go take the scroll that lies open in that hand of the angel who is standing on the seat and on the land.' So, I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, 'Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.'"

And today in the service, in the box that you were given, you can also hand out the pens to every third person. What I have done is provided you with a little scroll that is edible and on this piece of candy paper I want you to write that one thing that was fixed in your mind. If you are watching it by television or internet, get

your ground crack and go get some cakes there or something and write on it so you can do this when you finish it. But I want you to literally eat this thing that has been holding you back for so long.

Some of us have been struggling with this one thing for so long. We have been known we needed to do it. I am not telling you new today. I am telling about the one thing that you already know. God has spoken to most of you. You already know. You do not need a prophet to come and tell you what the one thing is. But I want you to eat it. I do not want you to just take it lightly and just make it another resolution that you do not keep. I want this thing to go to the inside of you, to go down into your stomach and this candy paper will be sweet in your mouth, but as it hits the belly, even if it was with the prophet John, it will be bitter as you go and try to do the discipline of it.

When you do not feel like doing it, it will become bitter. But I tell you that thing will digest in your system and become a part of your DNA and you will see change coming in your life. So, you take this paper and you write that one thing. Do you know that there is only one thing that you can believe to get into heaven? It does not matter if you believe, if you are a democrat or republican. That is not it. It does not matter whether you are Baptist or Methodist. That is not it. It does not matter if you are in the liberalism or conservatism. That is not it. But it is about what you say about the man, Christ Jesus.

What kind of relationship do you have with Him? And I am out of time. I thank you here for joining us, my brothers of the Word. If you want to hear this message again in its entirety, you can go to AirJesus.com and put in message #8210, Just One Thing. God bless you and thank you for tuning in, because brother, you need the Word.

And you all go ahead and write. People want me to explain how to work the pen. I think you just take the top off and squeeze enough fluid out of it to write and it is going to be big writing so you may want to write three or four words, but you all know the gist of it. So, just write enough where you all know what it is and three people are going to have to share this pen. So, one pen will write on multiple sheets of paper, so after you finish yours, pass it on to the next person and that is how you operate that. You can keep the pen.

Let us meditate upon that question and make sure that it is the one thing that will make the biggest difference in your life, the one thing. When you finish it, do not eat it yet just hold on to it and we will do it just like communion. At least if somebody did not get anything out of the message today, you at least can say I fed you well. There are not too many sermons where the preacher feeds you literal stuff. Hold it in your hands and bow your heads.

Lord, we thank you for those that have been obedient to Your Word today, oh Lord. We thank you for sending this message of one thing, oh Lord. We thank you, Lord, for the plans that you have for us, plans to prosper us, oh Lord. Plans, oh Lord, to improve our health, plans to improve our relationship, plans, oh Lord, to improve our walk in our mission, oh Father, and our purpose that you have created us for. And we pray, oh Lord as we hold these pieces of paper. We pray oh Lord, that as we eat these pieces of paper that You would allow your anointing to be upon it, oh Father, that we eat it as a sacrifice and sacrament unto you, oh Lord, that this one thing will draw us closer to the will of God.

Lord, we want to be closer to You. We want to do what it is that you would have us to do. We want to do that what You want us to do, oh Father. Lord, we pray that You will increase discipline like it has never been increased before, that you will make it easier as we eat these pieces of paper on this one thing that we have never had it before, oh Father. We pray, oh Lord, that any day that we not do this one thing that you will even trouble our sleep that we will get up and have to do it to stick unto the declaration that we made this day, of Lord. And, Lord, I pray that as this thing is continued in their lives, that You will allow supernatural breakthrough to come upon them, that You will allow situations that has been in their way to be moved. I pray, oh Lord, that you will allow bodies that have been sick to be healed.

I pray, oh Lord, that you will allow addictions that may have persisted for years to be broken by the power of your spirit, oh Father. Lord, we thank you this day. We thank you, Lord, and we will do our part and we know that You will do Your part. We thank you for being our joint partner in this place as we eat this one thing. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Sweet in the mouth, but bitter in the belly. It would not be as easy when you do not feel like it to do whatever you have written. That is the bitter part. But I tell you, the result of this sweet. When you see the new level that your life will go to, that will be sweet, and people would not see all of the struggles that you go through to get it to do right. But they all see the end result and wonder how you got that so fast all of a sudden. What changed in your life? And you will be look back upon this day that certainly one but one thing had changed. There is one thing that changed. Amen.

This ends message #8210 by James Bronner. To hear other messages or to send this message #8210 to a friend, simply go to AirJesus.com and the OnlineWord.com. This has been message #8210. Listen to AirJesus.com and the OnlineWord.com often and keep your spirit charged up.